

Message Text

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NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 L-03 NSC-05
PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /083 W
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9467

UNCLAS ROME 21058

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, PINT, IT
SUBJ: VISITS BY REPRESENTATIVE OF ITALIAN AUTONOMOUS UNIONS

1. PROFESSOR FRANCESCO MIRABELLI, VICE DIRECTOR OF THE TRADE UNION STUDY CENTER (CENTRO STUDI SINDACALI), VIA TOMACELLI 146, 00186 ROMA, WILL VISIT BOSTON DECEMBER 29 AND NEW YORK JANUARY 1-2, AND RETURN FOR FURTHER VISITS IN JANUARY, FEBRUARY AND MARCH. IN ADDITION TO VISITING RELATIVES, HE WILL SEEK PRELIMINARY CONTACTS WITH THE AMERICAN LABOR MOVEMENT AND RELATED EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS TO EXCHANGE INFORMATION AND EXPLORE EVENTUAL COLLABORATION.

2. THE CENTER IS A TRAINING AND INDOCTRINATION CENTER ESTABLISHED BY THE LEADING "AUTONOMOUS" (I.E. INDEPENDENT) UNIONS AND GROUPS OF UNIONS, AND IS TIED TO MODERATE ELEMENTS IN THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY. MIRABELLI CLAIMS TO BE AN ADVISER TO THE AUTONOMOUS RAILROAD UNION FISAFS AND THE CIVIL AVIATION FEDERATION FAAPAC, WHICH INCLUDES THE PILOTS' UNION ANPAC, AND TO BE WORKING TO FORM A BROADER TRANSPORT FEDERATION FAT. THE AUTONOMOUS UNIONS ARE CONSERVATIVE POLITICALLY, STRONGLY ANT-COMMUNIST AND OFTEN AGGRESSIVELY MILITANT ON BREAD-AND-BUTTER ISSUES. THEY ARE FAIRLY STRONG AND GROWING IN TRANSPORTATION, SCHOOLS, HOSPITALS AND GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE SECTORS, BUT OVERSHADOWED, RESENTED AND VIGOROUSLY OPPOSED BY CGIL,
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CISL AND UIL. ACCORDING TO MIRABELLI, MANY OF THOSE NOW IN AUTONOMOUS UNIONS WERE ACTIVE IN CISL IN EARLY DAYS, BUT LEFT IN PROTEST AGAINST CISL'S COOPERATION WITH CGIL.

3. EMBASSY TOLD MIRABELLI CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS WERE AN UNLIKELY TIME TO FIND ANYONE WITH WHOM TO ESTABLISH CONTACTS, AND THAT AMERICAN LABOR MOVEMENT WOULD MAKE UP ITS OWN MIND WHETHER

OR NOT IT WISHED CONTACTS WITH ITALY'S AUTONOMOUS UNIONS,
BUT THAT WE WOULD ASK DEPARTMENT TO INFORM AFL-CIO, ITALIAN-
AMERICAN LABOR COUNCIL AND HARVARD BUSINESS SCHOOL TRADE UNION
PROGRAM OF HIS VISIT AND INTEREST IN CONTACTS. EMBASSY GAVE
MIRABELLI NAME OF DIRECTOR JOSEPH O' DONNELL AT TUP AND PESIDENT
HOWARD LOMINANI AT ITALIAN-AMERICAN LABOR COUNCIL, PLUS
ADDRESS OF LATTER. MIRABELLI WILL ATTEMPT TO CONTACT O'DONNELL
DECEMBER 29 AND MOLISANI MORNING OF JANUARY 2, BUT WAS WARNED
HE IS UNLIKELY TO FIND THEM. IF UNABLE TO MAKE CONTACT, HE
WILL TRY AGAIN ON HIS VISITS IN JANUARY, FEBRUARY AND MARCH.
HE WILL STAY 15 DAYS IN MARCH.

4. MIRABELLI WILL STAY AT COLONNADE HOTEL IN BOSTON AND
ROOSEVELT HOTEL IN NEW YORK.

5. ACTION REQUESTED. DEPARTMENT IS REQUESTED TO INFORM AFL-CIO,
ITALIAN-AMERICAN LABOR COUNCIL AND TUP OF MIRABELLI'S VISITS
AND INTEREST IN CONTACTS.GARDNER

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
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